

study the dispute on the spot; and the observations on the report submitted by both parties. Following lengthy statements by the representatives of both Governments and an extensive discussion of various aspects of the dispute, the Committee decided that, all efforts to secure a pacific settlement having thus far proved ineffectual, steps should be taken to prepare the draft report and the recommendation contemplated in paragraph 4 of Article 15, with the understanding that the conciliation procedure under paragraph 3 of that Article should remain open until such time as the report should have been adopted. The Committee, therefore, recommended the establishment without delay of a Committee of twenty-two, consisting of the Members of the Council and of eight other States, namely, Colombia, Cuba, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, China, the Irish Free State, and Sweden. This Committee, authorized to settle its own procedure, was requested to ask for any assistance which it might consider necessary, in particular the co-operation of the United States of America and Brazil.

*Question of the Admission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics into the League*

When the question of the admission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics into the League came before the Committee it was at once evident that there would be considerable opposition.

The delegate of Portugal, taking the lead in opposing admission, referred to the danger of Soviet propaganda, and emphasized the incompatibility existing between the economic, political and moral principles advocated by the Soviet Union and the culture and ethics of Portuguese civilization. M. Motta (Switzerland) argued that the Soviet Union was based on anti-democratic and anti-religious principles and did not have the necessary minimum of moral and political conformity with other members of the League to entitle it to admission. He also stressed the risk of Communist propaganda. The Netherlands delegate simply stated that his country was obliged to vote against the admission of the Soviet Union.

M. Jaspar, Foreign Minister of Belgium, associated himself with the views expressed by the representative of Switzerland, but added that Belgium would abstain from voting on the question. Six other countries—the Argentine Republic, Cuba, Luxembourg, Nicaragua, Peru and Venezuela—followed this example.

The representatives of France, the United Kingdom, Italy, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Turkey gave their reasons for supporting the admission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, basing their arguments generally on the broad ground of the desirability of making the League as truly representative as possible.

In the course of the debate Dr. Skelton stated that the position of Canada was different in some respects from that of any other country that had participated in the discussion. He set forth the position of the Canadian delegation in the following terms:—

“Canada is one of those countries which find substantial difficulties in the entrance of Soviet Russia into the League, but believes that under the present world circumstances its entrance is desirable. Our fundamental difficulty lies in the wide difference that exists between the social and political principles of Soviet Russia and those of our own country. We are emphatic and unrepentant believers in freedom of opinion, freedom of the Press, freedom of religious belief and worship, and the organization of industrial life on a basis of individual initiative controlled to bring it into harmony with the common good. These principles of liberty and tolerance and the institutions of parliamentary democracy which are their political